

# HIGH POINT REGIONAL HIGH SCHOOL

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March 1, 2022

Dear High Point Community:

As outlined in my [February 8 letter](#), effective Monday, March 7 masks shall no longer be required to be worn by students, staff and visitors at High Point Regional High School, nor will they be required to be worn on buses. However, the personal choice for all to wear a mask will continue to exist; we are committed to supporting all families and staff regarding individual decisions related to masks.

This shift in protocols represents a significant change in our two-year effort to respond to the pandemic by ensuring student and staff safety, while simultaneously working to maintain academic and social vitality. In conjunction with the discontinuation of the mask mandate, High Point will also be modifying its contact tracing protocols. Of course, students who test positive for COVID-19 will continue to be excluded from school. However, we will no longer engage in exhaustive efforts to review video footage and analyze attendance records to identify individuals who may have been within three feet or six feet of an individual who has tested positive. Rather, our nurse's office and the administration will work with the student and their parent(s) to identify individuals who may have had significant contact with an infected person. This tailored approach to contact tracing is appropriate during the current circumstances; however, we remain prepared to adjust as needed, should increased COVID-19 activity dictate. We have made continual changes throughout the pandemic, so as to be responsive to the circumstances and the needs of our community; we will continue to modify our plans should it become necessary.

Also, starting on Monday, March 7 High Point will be expanding its very successful "Test-to-Stay" (TTS) program: any student who believes themselves to have been exposed to a confirmed positive or presumed positive individual, may request, free of charge, the administration of a rapid antigen test through our nurse's office, thereby maintaining the purpose of our TTS protocols. It remains imperative that students and parents continue to be steadfast in their monitoring of symptoms, and to remain home from school when symptomatic.

We will continue to notify the community of any changes to our protocols. Please also be reminded that the CDC, NJDOH, NJDOE and the High Point Board of Education recommends vaccination as the most effective method in controlling the spread of COVID-19.

Sincerely,



Scott D. Ripley, Ed.D.  
Superintendent